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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Joseph CRESTIN et al.

Serial No : Not Yet Assigned (National Stage of PCT/FR01/02248)

Filed : Concurrently Herewith (International Filing Date July 12, 2001)

For : DEVICE FOR AXIALLY RETAINING A CYLINDRICAL
ELEMENT AND MORE PARTICULARLY A CABLE

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to calculation of the filing fees and the examination of the above-identified patent application on the merits, the Examiner is respectfully requested to amend the claims as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claim 3 as follows (a marked-up copy of the amendment is provided in the attached Appendix):

3. (Amended) Device according to claim 1 characterised in that it is provided with a tubular packing seal (5) intended to be inserted in the final position between the cylindrical element (1), the sleeve (4) and the strips (9) of the coupling bushing (3).